

Message

From: Crooks, Jennifer [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=001BFF3D40594A238E3864A4FDD0FC29-JCROOKS]
Sent: 11/13/2017 1:56:42 PM
To: Citizen Name / Ex. 6
CC: McKim, Krista [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=aeebef6c80e141a29aa2bddd7329121-KMcKim]; Burdick, Melanie [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bc0fae2c6b7a43ec8b577d3689229aea-MHaveman]; Bair, Rita [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7211975c54e04ca09730917181205809-RBair]; Poy, Thomas [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6d30804725be4468b610f9863e2c938e-TPoy02]
Subject: FW: proposed MI UP mining project

Hi, Citizen Name / Ex. 6 Please note that in my discussions with MDEQ, that none of the data for groundwater gathered has indicated the mine will be an impact to any private drinking water wells.

From the environmental perspective, I contacted the NPDES permits Branch and the Watersheds and Wetlands Branch in our EPA Region 5 Water Division.

Below is the response I received from Krista McKim regarding your concerns about the Aquila mine project. It gives some general information about what EPA is doing with regards to this mine project.

Krista McKim's contact information is:

Mckim.krista@epa.gov

312-353-8270

Ms. McKim is an engineer, specializing in mining in the NPDES Branch (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES))

Melanie Burdick is a hydrologist working in the Watersheds and Wetlands Branch. Her contact information is:

Burdick.melanie@epa.gov

312-886-2255.

Jennifer Crooks

Jennifer Kurtz Crooks
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From: McKim, Krista
Sent: Thursday, November 09, 2017 9:05 AM

Thank you for your recent email comment to U.S. EPA regarding the proposed Aquila Resources Inc. Back Forty Project in Menominee County, Michigan.

As currently proposed, the Back Forty Project requires a number of permits, including permits required by federal statute. The State of Michigan has the authority and responsibility to review permit applications and issue these permits. In its oversight role, EPA reviews the State's permits to ensure their consistency with federal statutes. EPA has engaged with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) on each of the following permits required by federal law:

Clean Air Act Permit: During the public comment period, EPA stated its concerns with some of the draft air construction permit conditions. As part of its permitting process, MDEQ provided a response to comments document addressing EPA's comments and all comments received during the public comment period at time of final air construction permit issuance. MDEQ revised certain permit conditions to address EPA's concerns.

Clean Water Act Section 402 Permit (wastewater discharge permit): EPA provided comments on the draft permit during the public comment period. MDEQ provided a revised permit and the State's responses to comments. EPA provided additional comments to MDEQ on the revised permit. EPA's comments were focused primarily on toxicity testing and ambient monitoring requirements. EPA's comments were accepted by MDEQ and incorporated into the permit before it was issued on April 5, 2017.

Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit (wetlands permit): In August 2016, EPA objected to MDEQ issuing a 'Wetlands and Inland Lakes and Streams Permit.' Aquila Resources Inc. subsequently withdrew its MDEQ permit application. In January 2017, Aquila Resources Inc. re-applied to MDEQ. After MDEQ completes review of the application for completeness, MDEQ will issue a public notice, at which time, the public, tribes, and EPA will have an opportunity to provide comments. EPA will provide a thorough review of the revised permit application at that time. The past wetland application materials are located at miwaters.com, and the wetlands public notice will be posted there once it is issued.

Michigan also maintains state authority to issue mining permits under Part 632 of its Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act. EPA does not have authority to oversee the State's Part 632 permits. If you have formal comments you wish to make, we recommend you submit them to the MDEQ within the relevant comment period.

EPA is committed to ensuring that permits issued by MDEQ for the Back Forty Project comply with applicable federal environmental protection laws.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: Crooks, Jennifer
Sent: Thursday, November 09, 2017 8:53 AM
To: McKim, Krista <mckim.krista@epa.gov>
Cc: Bauer, Candice <bauer.candice@epa.gov>; Bair, Rita <bair.rita@epa.gov>
Subject: proposed MI UP mining project

Hi, Krista. I have received a citizen complaint/concern about a proposed mining project in the U.P. in/near Menominee, MI. The original complaint sounded like she was concerned about the mine draining her groundwater from her well, but it sounds like she's on city water. (below is my email string in my effort to research this with the State.) I talked with her yesterday and she's very concerned about the environmental impacts, like discharges into the river, of the mine. She's wondering what EPA's involvement is on the CW permit side. Can I have her call you to discuss?

Jennifer Crooks

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From: Maki, Joe (DEQ) [<mailto:MAKIJ3@michigan.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, November 09, 2017 5:58 AM
To: Thomas, Chuck (DEQ) <THOMASC3@michigan.gov>; Crooks, Jennifer <crooks.jennifer@epa.gov>
Cc: Lachance, Amy (DEQ) <LACHANCEA1@michigan.gov>; Casey, Steve (DEQ) <CASEYS@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Water Withdrawal permit contact

Good morning all,

I think it should be noted that none of the data for groundwater has indicated there will be an impact to any private wells.